

## ABSTRACT

Methodologies and equipment for using a hypochlorite solution to remove menstrual fluid, underarm perspiration or other hard-to-remove stains from soft fabric articles with reduced damage to the fabric articles when compared with popular chlorine bleaches. The soft fabric articles preferably are in white, although the present invention can also be applied to articles in other colors. In one embodiment, the weight concentration ratio of the alkali metal hydroxide over the hypochlorite salt in the hypochlorite solution is no less than 1:12.5. The hypochlorite solution may contain at least 0.2% by weight of sodium hydroxide and/or have a pH of at least 11.8.